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Complete Set of Pending Claims, as Amended July 3, 2002

U.S. Appln. Serial No. 09/420,719

19. (Amended) A sample solution treating instrument comprising:

(a) a sample introducing part;

(b) a control means for converting a sample solution to a condition for analysis by a biosensor that electrochemically measures a specific component in the sample solution, wherein the control means comprises an agent selected from the group consisting of a catalyst which is capable of converting an interfering substance in the sample solution to a harmless substance having no adverse effect on a measurement result of the specific component obtained by analysis with the biosensor, an adsorbent which is capable of adsorbing and removing an interfering substance from the sample solution, and a buffer agent which is capable of adjusting a pH of the sample solution to a pH range adequate for an activity of an enzyme in the biosensor; and

(c) a sample releasing part;

wherein the instrument is not physically coupled to the biosensor.

21. (Amended) The instrument of claim 19, wherein the catalyst is at least one enzyme.

24. The instrument of claim 19, further comprising a heater which is capable of heating the sample solution.

25. The instrument of claim 19, wherein the sample introducing part and the sample releasing part are at different positions, the control means is located between the sample introducing part and the sample releasing part, and the sample solution is passed through the control means and is subsequently released from the sample releasing part.

29. (New) A sample solution treating instrument comprising a sample treating unit and a sample supply unit, wherein the sample treating unit contains an agent capable of converting

the sample solution to a condition for analysis with a biosensor that electrochemically measures a specific component in a sample solution, the agent selected from the group consisting of a catalyst which is capable of converting an interfering substance in the sample solution to a harmless substance having no adverse effect on a measurement result of a specific component obtained by analysis with the biosensor, an adsorbent which is capable of adsorbing and removing an interfering substance from the sample solution, and a buffer agent which is capable of adjusting a pH of the sample solution to a pH range adequate for an activity of an enzyme in the biosensor.